GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:260
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2003
NEW RAILWAY ZONES
SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new railway zones have done satisfactory work after they were formed;

(b) if so, the facts and details in this regard ;

(c) whether the income of the Central Railway Zone has increased as compared to the previous years;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is any proposal pending with the Government to have more railway zones in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (f) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.260 BY SHRI SADASHIV DADOBA MANDLIK TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 18.122003 REGARDING NEW RAILWAY ZONES.

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) With the creation of smaller administrative railway zones, it has been possible to achieve an all round improvement in the functioning of the railways due to better supervision and monitoring. Since all zones contribute to the performance of Indian Railways as a whole, the improvement in overall performance of the Indian Railways indicates a significant contribution of the new zones. The following indices reflect the improvement in the performance of the Indian Railways:

During the period April-October` 2003, the originating freight loading was 311.29 million tonnes as compared to 290.88 million tonnes during the corresponding period of the previous year, recording an increase of 20.41 million tonnes implying a growth of 7%. Similarly, the total transport output in terms of Net Tonne Kilometres (NTKMs) increased from 202.05 Billion NTKMs to 212.60 Billion NTKMs which is an increase of 10.55 Billion NTKMs, indicating an overall growth of 5.22%.

The total earnings of Indian Railways during 2003-04 upto October`03 are Rs24029.05 crore as compared to Rs.23165.65 crore during the corresponding period of the previous year i.e., an increase of 3.73%.

During the period April-November, 2003, while the total number of consequential train accidents remained at the same level, there has been a significant improvement in the following areas of safety performance of the Indian Railways. During this period, there were 3 train collisions as against 10 train collisions during the corresponding period of the previous year. Similarly, the accidents at manned level crossing gates have dropped from 9 to 6 and the train derailments from 151 to 148.

During the current year, the punctuality performance of passenger carrying trains on most of the new railway zones is of the order of 95% to 98%.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The total earnings of Central Railway during the year 2003-04 upto November`03 is Rs.2712 crore as compared to Rs.2695 crore (truncated Central Railway) during the corresponding period of the previous year i.e., an increase of 0.63%.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.